

probably begin in the Colonies. Australia had the honour of being first: let Canada be second, and Nova Scotia and New Brunswick next,* if not along with us, and then the Parent Churches in olden home may be induced to follow the example of their Colonial offshoots. Who can calculate the immediate and remote results of all that? As a beginning among protestants, a beginning highly honourable to those making it, it will exhibit Presbyterians doing their part in order that Christ's last prayer before he suffered, that all who should believe on Him might be one, may be answered.

Before concluding, I beg leave to give a suggestion, not unworthy of attention,—that it may well seem to all of us to be wise, becoming, and for the general edification and comfort on all sides, and to the credit of our common presbyterianism, that there should now be no more disputings about words, no more talking on “points of difference,”—but that as Union is now a moral certainty, and its taking place is evidently the will of Him whom we call our Lord, therefore it should be the careful aim of all on both sides, to study the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another, and to be preparing for giving each other the right hand of cordial brotherhood; and that earnestly seeking to have their conversation such as becometh the Gospel of Christ, they may in their coming Union, with one heart and one mind strive together for the faith of the gospel, and with joint strength and zeal, sound forth the word of the Lord over this land.

A UNION MAN.

THE UNION.

In what state is the Union at the present time? Is it likely to be soon an accomplished fact? The people are getting perfectly wearied of these long negotiations for Union ending in nothing but the two Synods bandying compliments of respect for each other, and expressing their earnest desire for Union. We had occasion to be in Toronto about this time twelve months ago, and while walking along King Street, we met with an old acquaintance—a highly respectable Free Churchman and keen Unionist, who thus ascosted us, “What about the Union now? Is it to be accomplished this year?” We replied, that “it does not appear that a Basis of Union has yet been so constructed as to satisfy both Synods.” “Well, well,” he said, “unite without a Basis, for you will never agree on a Basis in which State-kirkism and Voluntaryism come into collision.” We were convinced at the time that there was a great deal of truth in his remark that “you will never agree on a Basis in which State-kirkism and Voluntaryism come into collision,” and the more still are we convinced since reading the reports in the *Globe* newspaper of the speeches and of the action taken on the subject of Union at the meetings of the two Synods last June.

* Since the above words were written, it appears in the *Nova Scotian* newspapers, that the Union of our Sister Church, and of the Free Church, in that country, is to be effected at a special meeting on October 4th; May Canada not be far behind.